



## Turkey wants U.N. to review Iraq embargo

ANKARA (R) — Turkey wants the U.N. Security Council to review trade sanctions against Iraq, saying they have proved ineffective and have damaged Turkish interests.

Volkan Vural, foreign policy adviser to Prime Minister Tansu Ciller, said Tuesday that persuading the Western allies to rethink the embargo was one of Turkey's main priorities.

"It has not achieved its objective," he told Reuters. "It has hurt the Iraqi people, but not brought about change."

Turkey, he said, had lost up to \$3 billion a year in trade, services and revenue from the oil pipeline it shares with Iraq in the three years since the United Nations imposed sanctions on Baghdad for invading Kuwait in August 1990.

Mr. Vural said Ankara did not plan to step out of line with the world community on Iraq or "reward Iraq for its aggression against Kuwait," but wanted its legitimate interests considered.

"We will remain committed to the fulfilment of the embargo as long as it is sustained by the United Nations," he said. "We want the Security Council to look at it from a new perspective, taking into account the losses suffered by Turkey."

Turkey firmly backed the U.S.-led coalition in the Gulf war against Iraq in 1991, letting allied bombers use Turkish bases.

It has since let U.S., French and British planes use the same bases to patrol northern Iraq to deter any Iraqi government attacks on Iraqi Kurds.

Ms. Ciller, who has been presenting Turkey's viewpoint on the sanctions to a succession of visiting U.S. congressmen, is expected to visit Washington for talks with President Bill Clinton in late September or early October.

"She will probably raise the issue then," Mr. Vural said.

Ankara's most urgent concern is to empty, cleanse and refill the 1.6 million-barrel-per-day pipeline from the Kirkuk oil fields in Iraq to a terminal on the Turkish Mediterranean coast.

Oil sources said the 980-kilometer pipeline contains 7.2 million barrels of crude and twice that amount would have to be

pumped from Iraq to complete the maintenance operation.

They said pumping stations in northern Iraq would need repairs costing about \$18 million before this could be done.

Saudi Arabia has already drained Iraqi crude from the export pipelines across its territory, the sources said.

Asked if Turkey might accept an oil-for-debt arrangement similar to the one under which the United Nations allows Jordan to import Iraqi crude for domestic use without any cash changing hands, Mr. Vural said: "This is one option."

Iraq owes Turkey about \$2 billion, he added.

Mr. Vural said the sanctions had blocked trade with a neighbour which was once of a major trading partner and further depressed the economy of the rebellious, mainly Kurdish southeast.

Despite its financial difficulties, Turkey, saddled with debt and still paying the cost of constructing the now-idle pipeline, was trying to help the emerging countries of Central Asia, the Balkans and the Caucasus, he said.

Mr. Vural reiterated Turkey's concern that Iraq's territorial integrity be preserved for the sake of regional stability.

"We believe that a tamed Iraq, respecting international laws, would be an asset to regional balance and stability," he said.

"Of course it's the Iraqis' responsibility to act in accordance with international law."

The United Nations has previously offered to let Iraq export oil worth \$1.6 billion through Turkey to pay for imports of food and medicine, relief work and war reparations, Iraq has rejected the offer, saying the conditions violate its sovereignty.

### U.N. due in Baghdad

Three U.N. missile experts will head for Baghdad Wednesday to monitor missile tests at two sites near Baghdad, a U.N. official said Tuesday.

Team leader Guy Martelle said they would stay in Iraq as long as they are needed by the U.N. special commission responsible for scrapping Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.



JOINT COMMITTEE: Prime Minister Abdul Aziz with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat after a meeting Tuesday of the joint

Jordanian-Palestinian Higher Committee (Photo by Salam Al Majali with Aynsley Floyd)

COPENHAGEN (AP) — Israel's supreme court Tuesday rejected an appeal from holocaust memorial group that demanded police investigate whether John Demjanjuk committed war crimes at two Nazi concentration camps.

The ruling, however, had no bearing on an earlier court decision to keep Mr. Demjanjuk in jail until Sept. 2 when Chief Justice Meir Shamgar scheduled a hearing on holocaust survivors' demands for a new war crimes trial.

It also came a day after Nazi hunters said one holocaust survivor claimed she remembered Mr. Demjanjuk as a guard in the Sobibor camp in Nazi-occupied Poland.

The woman, Esther Raab of Vineland, New Jersey, could prove critical to efforts to persuade Israel's supreme court to put Mr. Demjanjuk on trial a second time.

The Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Centre, Nazi hunting group, hoped to take a deposition from her by Wednesday, according to Efraim Zuroff, director of the Wiesenthal centre's Israel office.

Ed. Nishimic, Mr. Demjanjuk's

son-in-law and family spokesman, said in Ohio Monday that Mrs. Raab had failed on several occasions to pick Mr. Demjanjuk's picture from a photo lineup.

These alleged Nazi hunters are so determined to build up another false case against Mr. Demjanjuk that they have no feeling whatsoever for dragging survivors through public forums," Mr. Nishimic said.

Mr. Demjanjuk, 73, was acquitted July 29 of being "Ivan the Terrible," a guard at Treblinka camp who operated gas chambers. But, his deportation has been delayed four times following appeals to have him tried for allegations he was guard at Sobibor and other camps.

Tuesday's appeal was by the Plough Movement, a privately funded holocaust memorial group. It asked justices to order police to look for survivor witnesses to support documents suggesting Mr. Demjanjuk served at the Regensburg and Flossenbürg concentration camps. They proposed ads be placed in newspapers asking survivors to come forward.

The three-member court panel rejected the appeal, agreeing with attorney general Yosef Har-

ish's view that there was "no room for another police investigation," Justice Ministry spokeswoman Orit Shemesh said.

Mr. Shemesh also quoted Justice Gabriel Bach, who headed the panel, as ruling there was no reason to alter his Aug. 18 ruling, rejecting survivors' appeals to retry Mr. Demjanjuk.

Other appellants, including holocaust survivors, last week won a reprieve until Sept. 2 to petition for a larger panel of justices to review their case.

"We certainly are not happy but will honour the decision," Lapid spokesman Arie Barnea said after Tuesday's court ruling.

Mr. Barnea said he thought Israel stood a better chance of convicting Mr. Demjanjuk for being a guard at Flossenbürg and Regensburg because there would be no question of double jeopardy. Sobibor was part of the prosecution's case against Mr. Demjanjuk at the first trial.

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'Crescent Night' performers at Tuesday's premier blend dance, music and song to modern Jordan

## NHF's Theatre-in-Education presents 'Crescent Night'

AMMAN — Her Majesty Queen Noor Tuesday night attended the premier of the musical choreo presentation 'Crescent Night' produced by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation's Theatre-in-Education Programme — at the Royal Cultural Centre in Amman.

Choreographed by Rania Kamhawi, designed and directed by Lina Al Tal, 'Crescent Night' portrays different aspects of traditional and modern Jordan through a blend of dance, dabkeh, rhythm, melody and song.

It highlights Jordan's distinct seasons and colourful landscapes, the Jordanian people's attachment to the land, to warn family relations and to the spirit of tolerance and cooperation.

Through dance and poetry, 'Crescent Night' also brings to the stage the adverse effects of war and famine on the world's children and accentuates Jordan's aspirations for peaceful co-existence in a harmonious world.

Personally supported by Queen Noor who actively promotes understanding of Jordanian society and culture at the international level, 'Crescent Night' will be featured at the International Children's Festival (ICF) at Wolf Trap Farm Park for the Performing Arts in Vienna, Virginia, in the U.S. this September.

The ICF provides young people from 23 countries with the opportunity for cross-cultural interaction and understanding as a step towards a more peaceful world.

This musical production reflects NHF's integrated development endeavours to promote and enhance Jordan's culture, heritage and the arts. NHF's National Music Conservatory provided the musical talent through its director, staff and performing students, and, NHF's Jordan Design and Trade Centre — which trains and supports women to produce quality Jordanian handicrafts — provided the stage setting and

artifacts which added a decorum emanating from Jordan's rich culture and tradition.

The Theatre-in-Education Programme attempts, through the creative medium of drama, to transform Jordan's everyday life into a very enjoyable spectacle.

'Crescent Night' is the fifth theatre production of NHF's Theatre-in-Education Programme which was launched in 1987 to enhance the development of the educational process in Jordan through the creative medium of drama; and, to promote dramatic arts.

Queen Noor was accompanied by Their Royal Highnesses Princess Aishah and Princess Eman. Also attending were the secretaries general of the Ministries of Culture and Education, the NHF president, members of the NHF Board of Trustees, Mr. Douglas Keene, the Charge D'affaires at the American embassy and senior government officials.

## Crown Prince Award competitors begin volunteer service in Tafleah

AMMAN (Petra) — Part of a group of university students competing for the 1993 Crown Prince Award and operating under Al Sabila Project Tuesday began voluntary activities to benefit the local communities in the Tafleah governorate.

In three days, the students will carry out maintenance work at schools and local charitable societies and will organise a seminar on the role of Tafleah in the Great Arab Revolt, in addition to organising visits to the Dana Wildlife Re-

serve.

Al Sabila is operating under the supervision of Sharifa Zein Nasser who said that the project is backed by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Has-

for 25 days, entails construction and maintenance work, opening water canals, dredging others and carrying out recreational functions including mountain climbing.

The project seeks to spread its services to all parts of the country, noted Sharifa Zein.

Al Sabila project, introduced in 1990, encourages university students and other youth to volunteer and interact with local communities as a part of the competition for the Crown Prince Award.

The programme, which lasts

from

## Centre for the blind in financial crisis

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman-based Regional Centre for the Rehabilitation of Blind Women facing a financial crisis now that most of the Gulf states have stopped providing funds for its operations, according to Sheikh Abdullah Al Ghanem, the centre's general director.

"Only Saudi Arabia and Bahrain are still providing funds for the centre which requires additional sums to cater to its growing needs and expansion," said Sheikh Ghanem.

He appealed to the wealthy citizens of Jordan and local and regional organisations to extend assistance to the centre.

"Each year the centre admits 60 new women aged 15 to 35 from various countries of the Middle East," said Sheikh Ghanem. They are provided full accommodation plus health care and clothing during their stay, and they receive training in knitting, weaving, sewing, handling telephone exchanges, music and domestic

science," Sheikh Ghanem explained.

The centre, which was founded in 1974 to care for blind women, also trains them to become independently mobile with the aid of a walking stick, he continued.

"So far 75 women have graduated after learning a trade, enabling them to achieve their place in the society and earn a living," according to Sheikh Ghanem.

"The centre provides the women with JD 10 in monthly pocket money during their training and seeks to find them jobs after their course are completed. It also often provides sewing machines for them to work at home," Sheikh Ghanem added.

Referring to obstacles other than the financial matters, Sheikh Ghanem said the centre sometimes has difficulty in persuading the women's parents to send them for training at the centre.

"We are looking forward to setting up a large centre to care

for 200 rather than 60 women every year," Sheikh Ghanem said.

"It is hoped such a centre would provide education and training from the primary to secondary stages, and ensure jobs for the graduates," he concluded.

As part of the efforts to raise funds for the centre, Sheikh Ghanem announced that a sponsored march will be held on Sept. 30 in Amman under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor.

This march is intended to direct public attention to the needs of these women and to raise funds for the centre's projects," noted Sheikh Ghanem, who is also head of a Middle East committee for the care of the blind in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

On the committee are representatives of Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain, Yemen, Syria, Turkey, Lebanon, Iran, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Oman and Afghanistan.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Art exhibition by Iraqi artist Shaker Al Shadi at Alia Art Gallery.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by 25 Jordanian artists at the Housing Bank exhibition hall.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Jordanian artist Bishara Naif at Estrella Art Gallery, Amra Shopping Centre. The paintings depict Jordanian-Palestinian heritage, Jordanian antiquities, Arab Jerusalem, rural life and

### natural scenery.

### NEW GALLERY

- ★ Opening of new art gallery, "Darat al Funun," of the Abdulla Majeed Shoman Foundation. Programme includes the permanent exhibition and the "Chair" exhibition in Jabal Lubweh.

### PLAYS

- ★ Play entitled "Crescent Night" at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.

### FILM

- ★ Feature film: "Revenge of the Pink Panther" at the British Council at 7:00 p.m.

## Education ministry reports on projects, building progress

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Education is currently building 1,370 classrooms as annexes to existing schools run by the ministry in several regions for completion by the end of 1993, according to Abdul Razak Maani, director of the ministry's Projects and School Buildings Department.

At the same time work is under way for providing 168 school buildings with laboratories, libraries and workshops, he said in a statement Tuesday.

The construction of 152 school buildings which are being completed in three stages began in 1989, said Mr. Maani. The fourth stage will be carried out in 1994, he added.

The effort to build schools instead of renting buildings was motivated by the 1987 National Educational Conference which recommended an overhaul of the educational system in Jordan, said Mr. Maani, an engineer.

He noted that because of the ministry's implemented plans, the number of rented buildings has now dropped from 42 per cent before 1989 to 18 per cent at present.

Schools used for the two-shift system have also dropped from 19 per cent to 11 per cent, he said, adding that by 1998 there will not be a single rented building used for a school by the ministry.

Referring to other ministry achievements Mr. Maani said that since 1989, the ministry has set up two teachers clubs, one in Amman and the other in Irbid; and organised two scout camps one in Dibbin near Jerash and the other in Aqaba.

He said the ministry has started building its own warehouses to store textbooks in Amman and there are plans to build two other store houses, one in Zarqa and the other in Irbid.

In addition, work on three sports halls in Irbid, Shobak and Wadi Mousa are under way.

Mr. Maani said that the ministry now has 100 housing units for teachers in remote areas.

The right to occupy these units expires if the teacher decides to move to a different region, he explained.

In accordance with the plans formulated at the 1987 conference, the ministry is expected to build a total of 430 schools



The Ministry of Education plans to build 430 schools around the Kingdom, taking into account the annual increase in the number of the nation's school-age children (File photo)

Mr. Maani's statement came four days after the reopening of schools for the 1993-94 scholastic year. At least 1.35 million students are back in schools for the first semester of the new year.

## Shipping agents to review consequences of sanctions against Iraq on Aqaba Port

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A meeting being held at the port city of Aqaba today is expected to focus attention on the severe blow Jordan's only sea outlet has suffered as a result of what officials describe as the overzealous enforcement of the sanctions against Iraq.

The meeting, which will bring together the agents of Sudan Shipping Lines in Europe and the Middle East, will also make a pitch towards convincing international shipping companies to resume their regular service to Aqaba.

A plan to this effect has been prepared and will be submitted to the government for approval, Mr. Ulaya said Tuesday.

Under the new plans, a governor is authorised to appoint new employees and transfer others upon the recommendation of a special committee chaired by the governor himself, added Mr. Ulaya.

Furthermore, the CSC will shortly submit to the government for approving an integrated plan with job descriptions for public administration positions, he explained.

If the Council of Ministers approves the descriptions, the plan will be put into force at the beginning of next year, he added.

Explaining the work of the CSC, Mr. Ulaya said the office does not create public administration jobs, but rather recruits candidates for the various departments to fill vacant positions.

It is hoped, he said, that the CSC will be empowered to hold examination sessions for the competing candidates in order to determine their potentials and capabilities before taking up government posts, Mr. Ulaya added.

Referring to the applicants for public administration positions, Mr. Ulaya noted that the CSC now has 57,756 applications, of whom 38 per cent are from male applicants.

Committees (Continued from page 1)

It includes the secretaries-general of the ministries of planning and finance, the director-general of the Social Security Corporation, senior Foreign Ministry official Nabil Shukri and Audit Bureau Chief Adel Qudah as well as a senior official from the Central Bank.

Mr. Sayegh, head of the executive Palestinian side in the committee, could not attend the meeting because of "logistical problems related to travel," Dr. Dudo said.

Dr. Sayegh is based in Tunis and is an advisor to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat. He also heads the Palestinian side in the working committee on regional economic cooperation which is part of the multilateral phase of the Middle East peace process.

PLO Executive Committee member Salehima Najah, head of the Palestinian side in the committee, did not attend the meeting, among those attending were Samir Barghouti, Samir Huleyl, Atif Alawneh and Mahmoud Okasheh.

Dr. Dudo said a World Bank report on the Palestinian economy or a similar document reportedly drawn up by Harvard University experts in cooperation with regional experts were not and would not be part of the discussions of the economic committee.

In general terms, "it was a highly positive meeting and we exchanged views as the first step towards continuing consultations and coordination," he said.



The Arabian oryx has been saved from extinction through the efforts of wildlife experts and concerned parties

entirely fenced-in to protect it from neighbouring grazing domestic livestock.

At present, Shaumari serves as a main breeding centre for locally-extinct or endangered species, mainly the Arabian oryx.

In the four-day workshop

## HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

### Housing minister to attend conference in Cairo

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Public Works and Housing Khalaf Hawari will leave for Cairo Saturday to take part in the 40th session of the Council of Arab Ministers of Housing and Reconstruction Executive Bureau, which will be held there on Aug. 29. The two-day session will focus on the preparation of standard Arab construction codes, holding specialised symposia on construction, housing and urban development. Meanwhile a team representing the ministry left Cairo Tuesday to take part in a four-day meeting by a technical committee. The delegation is led by Haitham Mreish, an advisor to the minister of public works.

### NAF assists 453 families

AMMAN (Petra) — The National Aid Fund (NAF) last week paid JD 13,667 to 453 needy families in Jordan. The payment falls within the recurrent monthly payments for the needy, according to Khaled Ghneim, the NAF director general. The fund paid JD 29,500 last week to finance vocational training for 37 needy people.

### Free medical day held in Shafa Badran

MADABA (Petra) — The Applied Sciences University Tuesday organised a free medical day at Shafa Badran on the outskirts of Amman to mark His Majesty King Hussein's accession to the throne. Doctors examined the treated patients and dispensed needed drugs free of charge. Participating in the day was Greater Amman Mayor Mamdouh Al Abbadi.

### Jordan to participate in art festival in Syria

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in the International Busra Al Sham Festival of Art and Culture, which will be held in the Syrian City of Busra during the second week of September. Also taking part in the festival will be Syria, Egypt, Lebanon, Kuwait, Yemen, Tunisia, Palestine, China, India, Italy, Russia, Bulgaria and Armenia. The festival includes exhibitions of traditional industries, plastic art, books.

### Over 50% pass community college exam

AMMAN (Petra) — The overall pass rate at the Comprehensive Community College examination is 55.99 per cent, according to Secretary General of the Ministry of Higher Education Ahmad Al Hishan. Dr. Hishan was speaking at a press conference Tuesday, during which he announced results of the comprehensive examination for the year 1993. He said that 10,831 students out of a total of 19,342, divided among 83 major subjects, passed the examination.

### Islamic council appeals to U.N.

AMMAN (Petra) — The Amman-based World Islamic Council for Dawa and Relief Tuesday sent a cable to the United Nations Secretary General Boutros Ghali, voicing deep concern about the Croatian measures aimed at interrupting the work of Islamic relief organisations working in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The council called on Dr. Ghali to intervene with the Croatian government to stop such measures and ensure the smooth flow of international relief supplies and the freedom of movement of relief workers.

## Jordan Times

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## Yinhe in deep waters

THE SHADOWING of a Chinese freighter by the U.S. Navy in Gulf waters since Aug. 3 may appear benign and insignificant in the short term. In the long run, however, the incident may end up triggering a chain of reactions in Peking with serious consequences for international peace and stability.

The Chinese ship, Yinhe, is suspected of carrying chemical weapons for Iran. But while there is broad agreement among the comity of nations that there must be an end to the manufacture and deployment of chemical weapons and other weapons of mass destruction by all countries, especially those that lack stability and democracy, the method for controlling the proliferation of chemical weapons must also appear to be just and reasonable. In the case of the Yinhe, the U.S. warships that are stopping the cargo ship from even leaving the Gulf waters are doing the wrong thing because they are there ostensibly to enforce sanctions against Iraq, not Iran. On this score alone, the U.S. action appears to lack legitimacy and therefore calls for an immediate rectification.

We have seen how U.S. naval forces can exceed their mandate in the Aqaba Gulf region as well, by pretending to act on the basis of enforcing U.N. Security Council resolutions on Iraq. The end result of this action is that free and unimpeded international shipping will be hindered with dire economic consequences for many states.

There must be a higher authority that controls such actions other than the State Department or the Defence Ministry in Washington. Small states affected by precipitous actions like this by the U.S. can take interference with their free shipping rights rather stoically. But the interference with the shipping of China is something else. The humiliation that Peking has suffered at the sight of one of its ships being stopped in high seas for inspection by a superpower could prod China into counteractions in order to stop future humiliations. Chinese authorities may soon conclude that the most effective way to do so is by seeking more aggressively the status of full superpower, on par with the U.S. itself.

China is a fast growing country, with one of the highest expanding economies in the world. It also has developed very sophisticated technologies and is therefore able, in a relatively short period of time, to meet all kinds of challenges to its pride and sovereignty. Washington is pushing Peking into that direction by intimidating and humiliating it in the way it has been doing of late.

There is no quarrel with the proposition that the Middle East and the Gulf regions should be free of weapons of mass destruction. And so should, so many other regions of the world be. But there must be a better way to realize this objective than to resort to unilateral actions.

The most troubling aspect of the issue at hand is selectivity. There must be universal standards and rules for all countries, big or small, to follow. The international order must address problems of this nature in a more sophisticated and legitimate manner, well before the world is once again driven to the brink of nuclear terror.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

THE PEACE talks started in Madrid after the Jordanian and the Palestinian sides coordinated their positions and stands vis-a-vis the common cause and it is imperative on both to maintain these coordination efforts until the end, said Sawi Al Shabani daily. Indeed, coordination between the two sides served as the basis for joint action at the negotiating table, regarding Israel, and the Jordanians have to date refrained from taking any step without first ensuring that sufficient progress is being made along the Israeli-Palestinian track, continued the daily. The paper, which referred to King Hussein's statement in an interview with Agence France Presse, about the need for more coordination between the Palestinians and the Jordanians, said that coordination should involve the status of Jerusalem. The King said that there can be no solution without the settlement of issues revolving around the Holy City, added the paper. The King has made it clear that the first step on the road of ensuring liberation of occupied lands lies in Jordanian-Palestinian coordination at all levels. Referring to the projected confederation project, the paper echoed the King's words that only after the Palestinians have ensured their self-determination can such a step be contemplated. At the same time, and while coordination continues, the paper said, Jordan would never cease its full support for the Palestinian people, enabling them to regain their full, legitimate rights in their homeland.

COMMENTING ON the creation of the shura council in Saudi Arabia, a columnist in Al Ra'i daily said that such a step was in the right direction although it came late. Mahmoud Rimawi said that the council constituted the first step towards carrying out political reform, but still falls far short of other steps taken by other Gulf countries in this direction. In view of the developments at the regional and international levels and the increasing burdens on Saudi Arabia, there has been urgent need for political reforms and there were calls for such a step in the 1980s and early 1990s, said Rimawi. It is true that the Saudi leadership had achieved a lot for the people at the domestic level, but there is need for the people to share in the rule of the country and there is need for more freedoms under the umbrella of the law, demanded Rimawi. He said it would have been better for Saudi Arabia to have a fully fledged parliament rather than a shura council which is to be involved in the enactment of various legislations and laws.



## Novelists take on Mexico's political system

By Isaac A. Levi  
The Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — A bookstore chain is boycotting Rafael Loret de Mola's latest novel, which says some unpleasant things about the ruling party, and a pro-government magazine made a lengthy attack on the book.

While describing the short novel "Interim President" as "subliterature that slanders," the magazine, Siempre, acknowledged that it was "must reading in Mexican political circles."

Because of the boycott by the Sanborn's chain, which accounts for about one-third of book sales in Mexico City, Mr. Loret pickets its branches and sells autographed copies on the sidewalk outside.

"If it's such an insignificant work, why does the magazine (Siempre) use two pages to say it?" Mr. Loret, 40, said in an interview. "And the sales people at Sanborn's give all sorts of excuses: 'That it hasn't been delivered, that they've run out and so on.'"

A few years ago, he might have been sent into exile for writing such a book, or quietly advised to leave Mexico for reasons of health.

The Institutional Revolutionary Party, known as the PRI, has wielded virtually complete power in Mexico since 1929, and criticizing it can be risky.

At least 30 Mexican journalists have been murdered since 1982. After Mauricio Gonzalez de la Garza published "Last Call" in 1981, comparing the PRI to the dictatorship of Porfirio Diaz, two federal policemen put him on a plane for Texas.

Before "Interim President" was published, Mr. Loret was advised to leave the country because of his other critical writings. He went to France for four months.

Mr. Loret's father, Carlo Loret de Mola, a former state governor, wrote books accusing the party of forsaking the ideals of the Mexican revolution. He was killed in 1986 — in a car wreck, said police, by assassination, said his son. The nearly complete manuscript of his latest book was missing.

Mariana Dornbierer wrote in the newspaper Excelsior about the brothers of President Carlos Salinas de Gortari and a deal to renew the Mexico City racetrack license. She no longer writes for the paper.

Lately, dissident writers have been encouraged by a more tolerant PRI attitude.

Many of Mr. Loret's characters are thinly disguised officials of the current government, and there is much talk around water coolers of their real identities.

He and many of the other dissidents are or were journalists. Most of their books aim at the Salinas administration, which ends next year.

Among the favorite topics are corruption, electoral fraud and what the authors present as the secret wish of many presidents for more than the single six-year term permitted by the constitution.

"Journalists are writing in novels and books what they can't write in newspapers and magazines," Ms. Dornbierer said.

After her report on the president's brothers, she said, "Excelsior dropped me and others didn't

want to have anything to do with me."

Why is the government being gentler with its new critics?

"Books do not have as much projection nationally as, say, television or radio," Mr. Loret said. "And probably the government feels banning them could create a worse problem."

A paperback edition costs \$7 or more in a country with a daily minimum wage equivalent to about our \$4.50.

In Mexico, a president chooses his successor and the PRI experts popularly called "alchemists" or "electoral engineers," take care of the rest.

Journalists are frequently bought and most media chart the PRI candidate's virtues, largely ignoring the opposition.

Mr. Loret's "Interim President" approaches the question of electoral fraud tangentially.

President Cesar, yearning for a second term, designates his older brother, Pancho, to succeed him, thinking Pancho can be manipulated. But when Pancho becomes "the candidate," he starts making his own decisions.

A bomb blows Pancho to bits the day after the election and Cesar stays on, calling a new election without counting the votes.

This rubbed raw spots in high places, given rumors that the PRI wants to change the law prohibiting reelection, a sacred tenet of the 1917 constitution.

Since publication in February, Mr. Loret's novel has sold 20,000 copies. Selling a first printing of 3,500 copies is considered good in Mexico.

Ms. Dornbierer wrote "Journalists Die at Night," about a news-magazine writer named Gil Duarte who is killed by machine gun fire after the funeral of a journalist who was also assassinated.

In heaven, he finds many assassinated colleagues.

"Journalists Die at Night" came out in June and also has sold 20,000 copies.

Anatomy of Corruption" by Gloria Lajous, another journalist, tells of embezzlement by officials at the Mexican Tourism Bureau in New York City.

Ms. Lajous, 73, worked in the bureau for 3 1/2 years. When the government sent auditors to check up on the real-life case, she said in an interview, they were bribed with a \$14,000 watch apiece to find nothing wrong.

Rafael Rodriguez Castaneda, 49, has written "Sold-out Press" a history of the Mexican newspaper business.

Mr. Rodriguez, managing editor of the independent news magazine Proceso, describes a relationship established between press barons and President Lazaro Cardenas in 1935, when newprint was scarce and heavily taxed.

Mr. Cardenas set up a joint venture that imported paper duty-free and sold it to friendly newspapers on credit. According to Mr. Rodriguez, that put most newspapers solidly behind the PRI, essentially creating an official press.

Mr. Rodriguez, managing editor of the independent news magazine Proceso, describes a relationship established between press barons and President Lazaro Cardenas in 1935, when newprint was scarce and heavily taxed.

Mr. Salinas said recently that the joint venture, still in business, was for sale to any publishers interested. There have been no takers.

## To peace, by way of Jerusalem

By Milton Viorst

WASHINGTON — By all the rules of bargaining, Jerusalem was supposed to be at the bottom of the agenda of the Arab-Israeli peace talks. In fact, under the 1991 Madrid agreement, Jerusalem — the most difficult and emotional issue — was not even supposed to be on the agenda.

Discussions about it were to have been deferred for three years, while Palestinian autonomy was given a chance to work in the occupied territories. But the Palestinians have decided to go for broke in the talks, which resume Aug. 29.

They argue that they were coerced into accepting the Madrid rule by the Israeli refusal to deal under any other terms. They contend that Israel has shown few, if any, signs of a conciliatory spirit — in the talks and in its occupation of the territories since the initial meeting at Madrid.

So why, they ask, should they believe that Israel will be more willing to grant concessions on Jerusalem three years hence?

The Israelis reply that a deal is a deal, and so far the United States, sponsor of the talks, has backed them. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has also said Israel will never give up any part of Jerusalem — a pledge that has given the Palestinians more incentive to face the issue now.

The Israelis say they need Jerusalem because it is the heart of Zionism. Jerusalem is a vision that nourished Jewish identity for 2,000 years.

But the Palestinians speak the truth in claiming Jerusalem is vital to their identity, too. Not only is it Islam's third holiest city, but it has also been the heart of regional Arab culture through the centuries.

Must this dispute be a winner-take-all game in the negotiations?

Jerusalem's geography, and goodwill, could resolve the problem. East Jerusalem is totally Arab. West Jerusalem is totally Jewish. Even the Old City is delineated, with the Dome of the Rock and the Arab quarter to the east, the Western Wall and the Jewish quarter (along with the Christian and Armenian quarters) to the west.

A separating line would be easy to draw. Surely, the Zionist dream does not require Israeli rule over the Islamic holy sites, much less the kebab shops and, yes, the slums of East Jerusalem. Israel has already made a concession on this point, in agreeing that under autonomy East Jerusalem

## LETTERS

### Horrible cruelty

To the Editor:

THIS SATURDAY lunch time, my boyfriend and I saw a horse lying on a piece of wasteland in Abdoun, next to the British embassy. When we approached it, we were appalled to see that it had received terrible injuries. We informed the Jordanian guard at the embassy gate, who immediately called the Department of the Environment and the police. A nearby soldier called his superior and asked if he could shoot the horse. But unfortunately, none of the agencies were able to act at that time and the use of ammunition in the capital is restricted. Local vets were not available. After a long series of telephone calls which brought together and put the horse down that evening.

Everyone who saw the horse, including those with veterinary training, agreed that its legs could not have been broken by an accident and that an act of terrible cruelty had been inflicted on the animal. The legs had been hacked with an axe or heavy knife and were completely mangled. I know from meeting the people in Amman, and from the number of calls received about the horse, that the people of Amman are kind and considerate and will join me in condemning the horrific wounding of the animal.

This sad case highlights the need for a system which can deal quickly and effectively with situations of this type.

Catherine A. Hurfin, Amman.

To the Editor:

A GROUP of people was horrified at the weekend to find a horse, with two broken forelegs, dumped on a pile of rubble in Abdoun during the night. Apparently, someone had called the Jordanian Society for the Protection of Animals (JSPA) two days earlier, after seeing the horse. But the horse had disappeared by then. Surprisingly, the horse turned up again at the same place. It was discovered by workmen who came to work at a nearby house. The horse's legs were both severed and the horse was standing on the knee stump of one leg in the baking sun while calls for help were ignored.

Eventually, after a delay of several hours, a local vet did arrive and the horse was put out of its misery. Police help was not very empowered to act in such an urgent case when other help cannot be found?

Ali Kassay, Amman.

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is not responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.

# What on earth is the world coming to?

By Lester R. Brown

WHEN THE history of the late 20th century is written, the 1990s will be seen as a decade of discontinuity — a time when familiar trends that had seemed likely to go on forever, like smooth straight roads, came to abrupt bends or junctures and began descending abruptly. The world's production of steel, for example, had risen almost as reliably each year as the sun rises in the morning. The amount of coal extracted had risen almost uninterruptedly ever since the Industrial Revolution began. The harvest of grain had grown much faster than population since the middle of this century and the oceanic fish catch had more than quadrupled, doubling the consumption of sea-food per person.

These rising curves were seen as basic measures of human progress; we expected them to rise. But now, within just a few years, these trends have reversed, with consequences we have yet to grasp.

The discontinuities of the 1990s originate in the collision between expanding human numbers and needs, and the constraints of the earth's natural systems. Among these are the capacity of the oceans to yield seafood, of grasslands to produce beef and mutton, of the hydrological cycle to produce fresh water, of crops to use fertiliser, of the atmosphere to absorb green-house gases, of people or breath polluted air and of forests to withstand acid rain. These constraints drew dramatically closer between 1950 and 1990, as the global economy expanded nearly five-fold.

Another major source of pressure was unprecedented population growth. Those of us born before 1950 have seen world population double. In 1950, 37 million people were added to the world's population. Last year, 91 million were added. We struggle to find ways to grasp the magnitude of 91 million people. It means that we are adding 250,000 people to the world every day and a city the size of New York every month.

On a finite planet, such growth is beginning to take a social toll. The production of grain, perhaps the most basic economic measure of human well-being, increased 2.6 fold from 1950, to 1984. Expanding a nearly three per cent per year, it outstripped population growth, leading to an increase in per capita grain consumption of 40 per cent over the

period, improving nutrition and boosting consumption of livestock products — meat, milk, eggs and cheese — throughout the world. But during the eight years since 1984, world grain output has expanded perhaps one per cent per year — and in per capita terms, it has declined one per cent per year since then.

This faltering of basic food-stuffs was triggered by other, earlier discontinuities of growth

progressive farmers are peering over the shoulders of agricultural scientists looking for new help in boosting production, only to find not much is forthcoming.

The growth in meat production, like that of grain, is slowing. Between 1950 and 1987, world meat production increased almost four-fold, boosting the amount per person from 18 kilograms to 32 kilograms. Since 1987, however, it has not increased at all. Underlying this overall stagnation is a rather dramatic slowdown in the production of beef and mutton, resulting from the inability of grasslands to support more cattle and sheep. From 1950 to 1990, world beef output increased 2.5-fold. But from 1990 to 1992 — with grasslands almost fully used or overused on every continent — per capita beef production for the world fell six per cent.

Similarly with irrigation. After the middle of this century, growth in irrigated area accelerated, averaging nearly three per cent per year until 1978. Then, as the number of prime dam construction sites diminished and underground aquifers were depleted by over-pumping, the growth of irrigated area fell behind that of population.

Although there was little new land to plow from mid-century onwards, the world's farmers achieved the largest expansion of food output in history by dramatically raising land productivity. The engine of growth was fertilizer use, which increased nine-fold in three decades to 126 million tonnes in 1984 before starting to decline.

Getting more animal protein, whether in the form of beef or farm-raised fish, now depends on grain and soybean meal for feed. Those desiring to maintain animal protein intake now compete with those trying to consume more grain directly.

While biological constraints are forcing discontinuities in agriculture and oceanic fisheries, atmospheric constraints — the mounting risks associated with pollution and global warming — are altering energy trends. On the broadest level, this will entail shifting investment from fossil fuels and nuclear power towards renewables — and towards greater energy efficiency in every human activity.

We cannot yet see the end of the fossil fuel age, but we can see the beginning of its decline. World oil production peaked in 1979. World coal production

dropped in 1990, in 1991 and again in 1992, interrupting a growth trend that had spanned two centuries. Of the three fossil fuels, only clean-burning natural gas is expanding output rapidly.

With oil, it was the higher price that initially arrested growth. More recently, the pall of automotive air pollution in cities like Los Angeles, Mexico City and Seoul has slowed the once-unrestrained growth in motor vehicle use and, therefore, in oil use. With coal, it was neither supply nor price (the world has at least a few centuries of coal reserves left) but the effects of air pollution on human health, of acid rain on forests and crops and of rising carbon dioxide concentrations on the earth's climate that have sent the industry into decline.

What then will power the future world economy? Fifteen years ago, many would have said that nuclear power will. But the problems of waste disposal and safety have proved expensive and intractable and nuclear power is being challenged on economic grounds in most of the countries where it is produced.

Even as the nuclear and fossil fuel industries have faltered, three new technologies that harness energy directly or indirectly from the sun to produce electricity — solar thermal power plants, photovoltaic cells and wind generators — are surging. In wind power, particularly, breakthroughs in turbine technology are setting the stage for rapid expansion in the years ahead.

The potential for wind power far exceeds that of hydropower, which currently supplies one-fifth of world electricity. England and Scotland alone have enough wind potential to satisfy half of Europe's electricity needs. Two U.S. states — North Dakota and South Dakota — have enough wind to satisfy easily the whole country's electricity needs. And wind resource assessments by Peking have documented enough wind potential to raise China's electricity supply three-fold.

For Third World Villages not yet connected to a grid, photovoltaic arrays are a more practical source. With the World Bank beginning to support this technology, costs will fall fast, making photovoltaic cells even more competitive. Over the longer term, cheap solar electricity in various forms will permit conversion of electricity into hydrogen,

offering an efficient means of energy transportation and storage.

With constraints emerging up primary economic sectors such as grain, fish and livestock production, as well as scarcities of fresh water, we may be moving into an era of slower economic growth overall. World economic growth reached its historical high at 5.2 per cent per year during the '60s, slowed to 3.4 per cent in the '70s, and 2.9 per cent in the '80s. Despite this slowdown, per capita output of goods and services rose as overall economic growth stayed ahead of population.

Now that too may be reversing. From 1990 to 1992, the world economy expanded at 0.6 per

cent per year. Living standards are falling.

The conventional economic wisdom concerning the recession of the early '90s attributes it to economic mismanagement in the advanced industrial countries (particularly the United States, Germany and Japan) and to the disruption associated with economic reform in the centrally planned economies. These are obviously the dominant forces slowing world economic growth, but they are not the only ones.

The once-popular question of "growth or no growth" now seems largely irrelevant. A more fundamental question is how to satisfy the basic needs of the world's people without further

disrupting the economy's support systems and jeopardising the prospects of future generations.

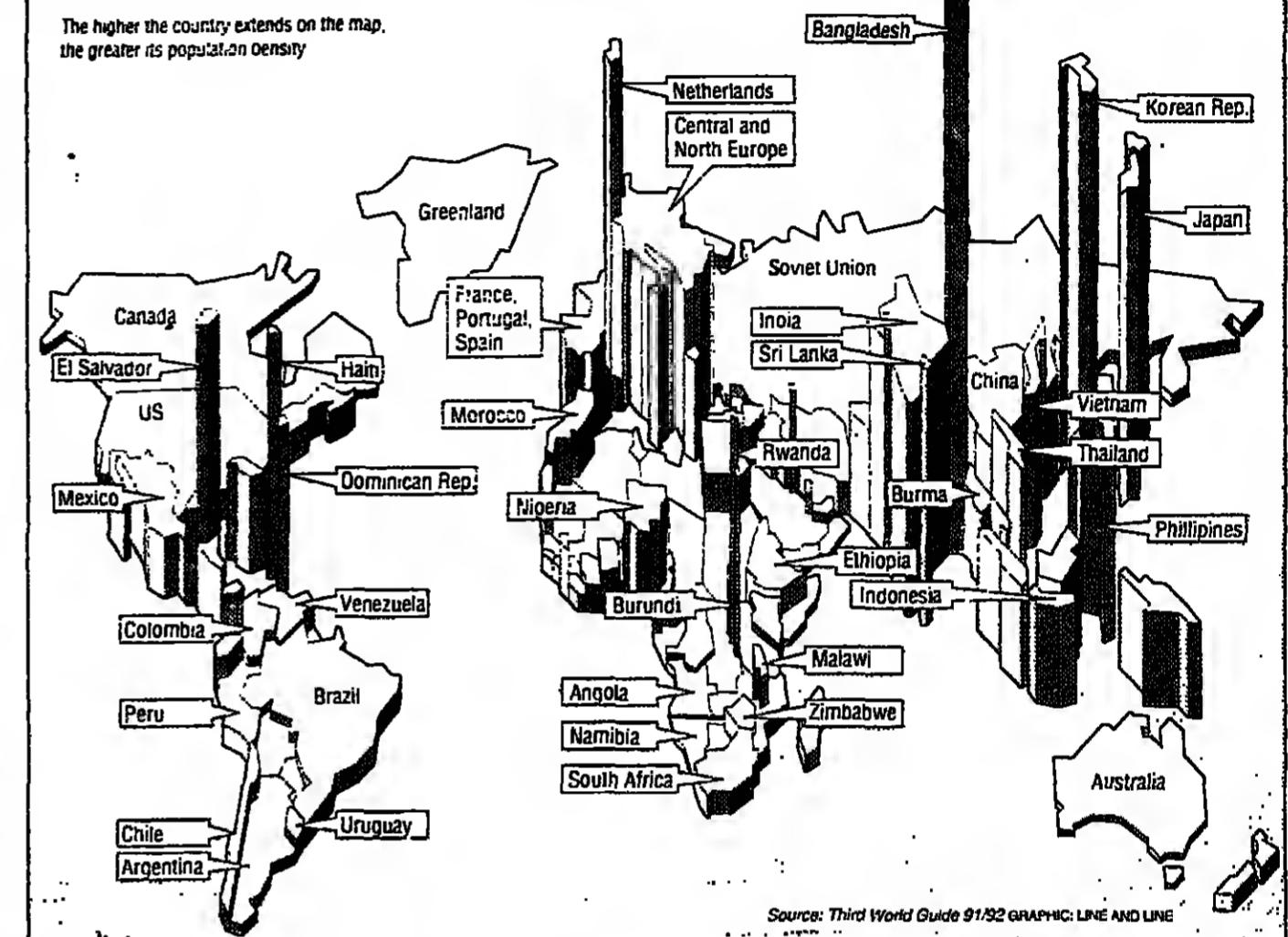
Of all the discontinuities that have become apparent in the past few years, however, the upwards shift in the population growth trend may be most disturbing. Throughout the 1960s and 1970s, declining fertility held out hope for braking population growth before it began to undermine living standards. The 1980s, however, turned out to be a lost decade, one in which the United States now only abdicated its leadership role, but also withdrew financial support from the U.N. Population Fund and the International Planned Parenthood Federation. This deprived

millions of couples in the Third World of access to the family planning services.

That population growth could undermine living standards has now become a matter of deepening concern. In early 1992, the U.S. National Academy of Sciences and the Royal Society of London together issued a report soberly warning that "If current predictions of population growth prove accurate and patterns of human activity on the planet remain unchanged, science and technology may not be able to prevent either irreversible degradation of the environment or continued poverty for much of the world" — The Washington Post.

## High rises

Relative population densities around the world (people per square km)



Source: Third World Guide 91/92 GRAPHIC: LINE AND LINE

## British government road plans collide with environment

By Robert Woodward  
Reuter

'middle England' to what is happening," says Jai Redman of Twyford Down Alert. "The government wants us all to worship the same God — the motor car."

The Conservative government has pledged 24 billion pounds (\$36 billion) until 1999 for by-passes, motorways and other improvements. It believes these will improve industry's efficiency, make travelling easier and improve the living standards of people in towns throttled by traffic.

But many Britons believe Transport Secretary John MacGregor should be looking at ways of cutting traffic, not helping it.

At present there are 25 million vehicles for Britain's 56 million population and the government says road traffic could double by 2025. In most cities parking is a major headache and pollution from traffic often builds to dangerous levels.

Problems associated with car use are most grave in the south of England. Within 50 kilometres of London there are few places where you cannot hear the throb of traffic. Car ownership in London is expected to increase 50 per cent in the next 20 years.

Opposition politicians accuse the government of having a one-track policy and ignoring the benefits of public transport.

Less than five per cent of heavy freight is carried on Britain's railways and the government's plan to privatise the rail network is widely expected to lead to higher fares and less services, increasing the pressure on the road system.

"There should be a fundamental review of the road programme to encourage people to transfer to public transport," says John Prescott, transport spokesman for the main opposition Labour Party.

"This is the only way to deal with congestion and environmental problems."

Until the last two years, the

main brake on the government's road plans was tight spending limits imposed by the treasury.

Now there are clear signs that public anger is growing, particularly among traditional Conservative voters in the countryside. Much of that disquiet has been triggered at events at Twyford Down.

"Many only realise now how far it's gone. We were screaming but no one was listening," said Mr. Jai as he watched diggers crunch through the chalk deep inside the cutting. "Now they've seen what has happened and they are getting active before it happens to them."

Last month Mr. MacGregor was forced to drop plans to drive a trunk road through Oxeas Wood, an 8,000 year-old forest in south-east London, after widespread protests.

Environmental organisations have combined forces to fight the threat from roads and they are being led by small radical groups. Non-violent direct action is becoming the norm, even among the law-abiding middle classes, they say.

Twyford Down and Oxeas Wood have given incredible strength of spirit to ordinary people," said a spokesman for a London pressure group. "It's given them power and a real feeling that the time is right to act."

Pressure groups see government plans to widen sections of the M25 orbital motorway around London to 14 lanes, making it the biggest road outside the United States, as the next flashpoint.

The widening will affect hard-core Conservative voters in wealthy suburbs west of London. Opposition to the scheme is loud and transcends political boundaries.

"Short of declaring martial law it is difficult to know what they (the government) can do," said Jonathan Bray of the anti-road co-ordinating group Alarm UK.

## Yugoslavs adjust to living in poverty

By Natela Cutter  
Reuter

money to spend," said Ms. Pavlović, almost in tears as she stood in front of Savija Banka alongside many long-faced, disgruntled people.

Ms. Pavlović is one of the 1.2 million pensioners in Serbia who have been pushed to the bottom of the social ladder by a daily one-per cent hyperinflation and prices that jump twice a day, some by more than 200 per cent.

She, like many others, depends on relatives to help her out or simply on the bank's goodwill to turn a blind eye on her current account overdraft.

Amid economic ebabs and hyperinflation, some 97 per cent of the population of rump Yugoslavia lives below the poverty level. The standard of living has plummeted to subsistence levels since last year, according to government statistics.

Ms. Pavlović's monthly income amounted to less than \$6 exchanged at the black market rate — enough to buy a kilo of coffee or three bottles of aspirin.

Struck by galloping inflation rooted in sanctions imposed for Yugoslavia's role in the war in Bosnia, the cash-strapped Central Bank has been unable to issue people with either their monthly salaries or their savings.

"I came to the bank to see if I could withdraw my money before inflation consumes it, but the bank has no cash and I have no

a month but now receives only \$12 a month for his official work.

"I earn anywhere between \$30 and \$70 a day by buying and selling currencies," he said. Local people are keen to convert their dinars into hard currency as quickly as possible.

"It's no use keeping dinars in your pocket," said one local taxi driver. "If I want to hold on to my money I have to convert dinars into hard currency after every shift," he said.

The government announced last January that it would declare war on speculators to help prop up an economy crippled by sanctions and the war. But local police only recently began a half-hearted crackdown on black market dealers, arresting 457 in just one swoop last month.

Mile complained that only small-time dealers were being taken into custody while "those who really counted were un-touchable."

Just a few blocks away from where Mile and his colleagues were standing, police started clearing the streets of money and cigarette vendors, many of them refugees from Bosnia.

"We can really only take their goods and money away from them but we can't keep them in custody," said Rocky, a young police officer, shrugging his shoulders.

He explained that the government had not made any new laws to cope with street vendors and currency dealers.

"It's just a vicious circle," he concluded.

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A young Bosnian boy takes a swallow of water one day water is resumed to Sarajevo. The situation is not unfamiliar to any of the towns and villages of the war-torn, rump Yugoslavia (AFP photo)

# Economy

## Japan bombarded with weak economic data and discouraging company results

TOKYO (AFP) — Japan was bombarded Tuesday with an array of weak economic data and corporate profit declines, reflecting the adverse impact of the yen's appreciation and slumping sales in almost all major markets except Asia.

The most discouraging news came from the Economic Planning Agency, which revised its assessment of the Japanese economy downward last week amid growing signs that the country is heading towards a double dip recession.

The agency said Tuesday its leading index of economic indicators remained below the crucial boom-or-bust line of 50 points in June, falling from a revised 41.7 points in May to a mere 36.4 per points.

The index measures 13 areas of economic activity, indicating the outlook in the coming six months. Fifty points is considered the dividing line between future expansion or contraction in overall activity.

"We don't consider that the economy will continue to deteriorate," an agency official said. "But we can't expect a rapid recovery."

## Budget crisis weakens Australian government

CANBERRA (R) — Prime Minister Paul Keating's ability to push his budget past opposition parties in parliament weakened Tuesday with the publication of an opinion poll showing a collapse in government popularity.

With only 31 per cent support Mr. Keating's government is now less popular than any administration since the Labour party gained power in 1983, the news-poll in the Australian newspaper said.

Newspoll said the budget had prompted the greatest slump in government popularity — 10 percentage points in two weeks — it had ever recorded.

Analysts said Mr. Keating was now in no position to threaten hostile parties in the senate, the upper house of parliament.

"I don't think the government can now force the budget through in an untouched form," Elaine Thompson, a political analyst with the University of New South Wales, said.

Instead Mr. Keating will have to negotiate with the 10 middle-ground senators — Australian Democrats, Greens and an independent — who hold the balance of power in the senate.

The minor parties have demanded changes to the budget, which raised almost every indirect tax as part of a plan to reduce the deficit from 16 billion Australian dollars (\$10.7 billion) in 1993/94 to below 6 billion Australian dollars (\$4 billion) in 1996/97.

Health Minister Graham Richardson said Tuesday there was a pretty good chance the government would call an elec-

Negative factors in June included commodity prices, employment, machinery orders, inventories of finished goods, housing starts, shipments of durable goods and corporate profits, the agency said.

Among other discouraging announcements Tuesday:

The Japan chain store association said sales at supermarkets in July fell 2.6 per cent from a year earlier to 1,370 billion yen (\$13 billion), marking 11 months of uninterrupted declines.

Sales of food rose 1.2 per cent, but clothing sales fell 8.3 per cent and overall sales are not expected to improve in August which was marred by continued cool weather.

The international trade and industry ministry said industrial output in the three months to June shrank 1.5 per cent from the previous quarter with shipments falling 2.7 per cent.

Inventory levels only 0.7 per cent and continuing adjustment may depress production further in the current quarter.

Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. Ltd. said group pretax earnings fell seven per cent to 33.7 billion yen in the three months to June with sales down

seven per cent to 1,596 billion yen.

The high yen, low demand for audio-visual products and the negative impact of Japan's cool summer on airconditioner sales all contributed," the world's biggest consumer electronics manufacturer said.

Honda Motor Co. Ltd. said group pretax profit plunged 55 per cent to 15.3 billion yen in the same period, with sales falling 17 per cent to 920 billion yen.

"Although overall sales volume in Asia excluding Japan showed a steady increase, a decline in sales of automobiles in Japan, North America and Europe, as well as the strong impact of the higher yen, negatively affected revenue," the third-biggest Japanese carmaker said.

TDK Corp. said worldwide profits before tax plunged 42 per cent to 6.4 billion yen in the same three months with sales falling 9.6 per cent to 121 billion yen.

The world's largest maker of magnetic tapes said the declines reflected the yen's surge and a slump in demand for video and cassette tapes.

Moody Investors Services Inc. placed the long-term credit

rating of Sony Corp. under review for possible downgrading, citing downward pressure on the Japanese electronics giant's profits and cash flow.

Finance Minister Hiroshima Fuji's disclosure Tuesday that the Japanese government implemented 56 per cent of this year's public works projects in the first quarter, the highest ratio since 1966, was meanwhile greeted cautiously.

"These funds are simply not being injected into the economy quickly enough to have much positive effect," said Kenneth Courtis, senior economist at Deutsche Bank Capital Markets (Asia).

He blamed the "cascade of political scandals" in Japan and the "pervasive reluctance on the part of local authorities to engage in much new spending for fear — rightly or wrongly — of being drawn into a web of suspicion.

"Japan is caught in the tightening grip of a vicious deflationary vice," Mr. Courtis said, noting that spending delays had combined with the cool summer and the strong yen to push the economy back into recession in the current quarter following a relatively strong performance.

## Campaign barely curbs China state industry losses

PEKING (Agencies) — A nearly two-year-old campaign to restructure China's loss-making state enterprises has managed to cut industrial red ink by only 3.6 per cent, the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

Disappointed by the poor results, Peking has resorted to an old-fashioned cure — Stalinist-style loss-reduction by decree.

The State Economic and Trade Commission and the ministry of finance decreed at a national meeting that losses by state-owned enterprises must fall 20 per cent by the end of 1993 and the number of loss-making firms trimmed by five per cent in the same period, Xinhua said late Monday.

Commission Vice-Minister Shi Wanpeng said the restructuring begun in late 1991 had, by the end of 1992, yielded only a 3.6 per cent reduction in red ink, at the state enterprises and a 4.2 per cent drop in their overall number.

The restructuring called for grafting useful operations and workers from major loss-making enterprises on to flourishing but labour-short market-oriented firms.

Plants that could not be salvaged were to be closed and their workers furloughed at half pay.

Analysts say state industry's perennial losses — projected optimistically at 84.4 billion yuan (\$14.8 billion) this year — pose a threat to China's economic growth, which sizzled at a year-on-year 14 per cent rate in the first half of 1993.

They say Peking's printing of money to finance huge industrial

subsidies is a key contributor to China's inflationary spiral.

Peking has floated numerous ideas for prodding loss-makers into fiscal health, vowing to make some responsible for profits and losses by year's end.

Mr. Shi said new plans were afoot to curb losses in the petroleum, coal and defence industries through unspecified reforms.

But there is virtually no chance that state-owned industry will be allowed to die on the altar of market forces.

Accounting officially for 55 per cent of China's industrial production, including the entire energy and transport sectors, state industry is a cornerstone of Communist Party authority.

A vice minister of finance, Li Yanling, told the conference that loss reduction can be achieved only by "deepening the reform and transforming enterprises' operational mechanism" — code-word for a go-slow policy on the shift to market economics.

Recent increases in state-set coal and petroleum prices, though inflationary, have helped reduce losses in those key industries, both of which are owned by the government.

An official in the oil sector said that China will lay off some 500,000 workers in the oil and natural gas sector by 1995 as part of a broad restructuring as the country shifts to a market economy.

The plan also includes far-reaching price reforms to create a unified system in line with the world market within three years.

The government's constitutional remedy to senate obstruction is to force both houses of parliament to an election.

The Australian dollar fell

almost one U.S. cent to US 0.6650 in New York trading Monday as foreign exchange markets reacted to the crisis.

They say Peking's printing of money to finance huge industrial

## Balladur tells ministers to close ranks

PARIS (R) — France's conservative government, buffeted by recession and a run on the franc since taking office just four months ago, met for six hours Monday to draw up its strategy for the country's economic crisis.

Prime Minister Edouard Balladur called on his ministers to close ranks in fighting unemployment, described by government spokesman Nicolas Sarkozy as the premier's biggest worry.

"All our work must go towards solving this problem," Mr. Sarkozy, who is also budget minister, told reporters.

But apart from a slight easing of income tax, Mr. Balladur is not expected to change significantly policies which have made the fight against inflation and defence of the franc priorities.

The meeting was the first since the virtual collapse of the European Community's exchange rate mechanism (ERM) on Aug. 2 and came amid calls for France to take advantage of the effective float of the franc to slash interest rates and boost economic growth.

In an increasingly venomous campaign, government critics have published a series of anonymous letters demanding a change of course to tackle recession and unemployment at 11.6 per cent.

The latest, a group writing in the monthly *Revue des Deux Mondes* described "the tragedy of the strong franc" which it said could only be alleviated by sharply lowering interest rates and breaking the link between the franc and the mark.

They also condemned the strong-arm tactics of the treasury and Bank of France who they said were stifling economic debate.

The letter was signed "Galileo," after the 17th century philosopher forced to recant his "heretical" views and admit that the sun really did revolve round the earth.

The premier told ministers the government and majority must not be riven by dissent, Mr. Sarkozy said.

"The country's troubles are serious enough to that the government must set an example of unity, solidarity and teamwork," he said.

Mr. Balladur, still the most popular premier since World War II, has however seemed immune both to such criticism and to the ERM debacle over which his government has presided.

Unemployment is officially forecast to hit 12.5 per cent by the end of the year as France's high

real interest rates dig it deeper

into slump.

Germany, its main trading partner and ally, has too many problems of its own to be much help, while at home angry farmers are once again threatening to blockade Paris next month.

Moreover, the virtual collapse of the ERM has left a huge hole in the dream of European Union which has been the centerpiece of French foreign policy for almost a decade.

On Monday the Bank of France lowered its 24-hour rate by half a percentage point to 7.75 per cent, the fifth small cut since the ERM crisis.

The cautious approach on rates appears to underline the authorities' determination to keep the franc's link to the mark and keep up progress towards economic and monetary union (EMU).

Signs of whether France will be rewarded for that effort may emerge Thursday when Mr. Balladur flies to Bonn for talks with German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

The Bundesbank council, which still holds the key to lower interest rates across Europe, meets in Frankfurt that day.

A German rate cut could comfort Mr. Balladur in his calm assurance that the franc-mark link can be kept alive.

## Economists say German central bank likely to cut discount rate half a point tomorrow

FRANKFURT (AFP) — The majority of German economists are convinced that the Bundesbank will cut its discount rate by half a point at the Thursday meeting of its policy-making central council, or at the latest at the following meeting, to make it easier to handle monetary policy.

But it is primarily "technical factors" that are pushing the German central bank into reducing that key interest rate, the experts say. The point is that since the bank has reduced its securities repurchase ("repo") rate the last few weeks to 6.8 per cent against almost 7.3 per cent in mid-July, it no longer has enough room for maneuver in daily management of monetary policy.

By maintaining its discount rate at 6.75 per cent at its July 29

meeting, the Bundesbank aggravated the wave of speculation shaking the European monetary system (EMS), which was to lead, on Aug. 2, to a drastic widening of the permitted fluctuation bands within the exchange rate mechanism. Since then, the mark has appreciated only moderately against the other European currencies.

Since the other EC countries now have more elbow-room in adapting their monetary policies to their specific economic situation thanks to the widening of the bands to 15 per cent on either side of the central values, there is now considerably less pressure on the Bundesbank to chop rates sharply, economists note.

As the Bundesbank central council meets Thursday in Frank-

furt, Chancellor Helmut Kohl will be welcoming French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur in Bonn. But Commerzbank economist Peter Pietsch says "there is no longer any real (French) political pressure" on the Bundesbank, but at most a French "wish" to see the German interest rates lowered.

Analysts are divided in their interpretation of recent statements by Bundesbank officials. In its August report, the bank acknowledged that, like other European central banks, it had more room for maneuver after the Aug. 2 decision to widen the EMS bands — but it added that the margin be "used with caution."

Last Friday, Bundesbank President Helmut Schlesinger warned

against market disorders that might be caused by "excessive expectations" about a reduction of the Bundesbank's key interest rates.

He was aiming his remark at Deutsche Bank — but all the same, Deutsche Bank research economist Rainer Veit said chances of a cut in the discount rate this Thursday are better than 50/50.

Over the weekend, Bundesbank Vice-President Hans Tietmeyer said in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, that a continued gradual lowering of interest rates would be possible if permitted by money supply and inflation trends. BHF economist Hermann Reinsperger commented that with those conditions, "that assertion is always true."

TASHKENT, Uzbekistan (R) — The former Soviet republic of Kyrgyzstan, a major recipient of Western aid, announced stringent 199 budgetary controls Tuesday to drag the country out of a deepening economic mess.

The package, carried in the official Slovo Kyrgyzstan newspaper, outlaws state lending to state-owned industry and orders widespread redundancies in government ministries, a local journal said by telephone.

Now, by announcing plans to slim a bloated bureaucracy, it has apparently moved further along the reformist road than other former Soviet republics, where state jobs are still sacrosanct.

It also demands that all branches of industry except agriculture, energy and bread production pay five per cent of their sales revenues into a newly established social protection fund. The payments are retroactive from Aug. 15.

"It is a very stringent package of measures," said a foreign diplomat, speaking by telephone from the Kyrgyz capital Bishkek.

But for ordinary Kyrgyz, the changes have been painful.

The average wage slipped be-

low the poverty line in June; education ministry employees to unemployment — officially non-existent in Soviet days — has risen to 52,000 and industrial production fell by 25 per cent in the first half of 1993 from the same period of 1992.

Industrialists complained the introduction of the som made it hard to pay bills to Russia and other ex-Soviet states. Overall indebtedness is high.

The new budget measures, described in a decree from Prime Minister Tursunbek Chengyshev, aim to avert a payments crisis. They forecast 1993 expenditure at 657 million som (\$11 million) and income at 497 million som (\$84 million).

Mr. Chengyshev's decree also says all money earned this year from the privatisation of state property should be funnelled into government coffers.

It calls for 10 per cent of

## Kyrgyzstan unveils tough budget measures

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## THE BETTER HALF, By Harris



"Aluminum siding! I think you're overreacting to that gray hair you found."

## JUMBLE, IN THAT SCRABBLE WORD GAME



Uncramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

KARCC  
MYKOS  
LORCAR  
TEKLET</p



## S. African negotiators unveil 3rd draft constitution

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies)

Legal experts Tuesday submitted a third draft of South Africa's future constitution to democracy negotiators, proposing the creation of a post of vice-president to be held by a person from a political party other than that of the president.

The president and vice-president will thus "lay a unifying role at a time when national reconciliation is likely to be a high priority," the draft said.

It suggested that the two, once elected, withdraw from parliamentary politics to help advance reconciliation, leaving day-to-day business to a prime minister chosen from the president's party.

With the president elected from the majority party and the vice-president from the opposition, "the vice-president will act for the president during his or her absence, but will not necessarily succeed to the office of president if it should become vacant," the draft said.

It said the president should be elected by the National Assembly within 15 days of South Africa's first non-racial election, set for April 27.

The latest draft avoids the thorny issue of federalism, leaving it up to a special committee set up after the first and second drafts drew fierce criticism from the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) and right-wing groups that fear they will be swamped by an African National Congress majority.

The drafts submitted so far are for a temporary basic law to be debated and ratified at the democracy forum before being rewritten — save for immutable constitutional principles — by a Constitution Making Body (CMB) to emerge from the April 27 poll.

Top government negotiator Roelf Meyer told the South African Press Association (SAPA) Tuesday that a final draft should be ready for ratification at a special session of parliament in October.

IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi has rejected the first two drafts out of hand and is against the very notion of a CMB, demanding instead that a panel of experts draw up a definitive constitution on the basis of suggestions by democracy negotiators.

The IFP and the white right-wing Conservative Party abandoned talks on July 2 in protest over the setting of the election date.

Meanwhile four people were killed, one a four-year-old child, in clashes between troops and residents in Phola Park squatter camp near Johannesburg early Tuesday, witnesses and the African National Congress said.

The South African Defence Force said it knew of only two victims: Gunmen killed after attacking an army patrol.

A Phola Park resident told Reuters the Afrikaans-speaking soldiers, dressed in long jackets and balaclavas, fired volleys of shots at shacks in the camp, killing the sleeping child.

Three other people were killed in separate incidents in the camp between midnight and 2 a.m., residents said.

Defence Force spokesman Major Andreas Jordaan told Reuters an army patrol returned fire after being ambushed by a group of gunmen.

"I cannot comment on reports of four people being killed. What I can confirm is that an army patrol shot and killed two men after the patrol came under fire. Two AK-47 assault rifles were recovered," said Maj. Jordaan.

"He said no soldiers were wounded in the gunbattle."

ANC Phola Park executive member Doctor Nkonyana told reporters police were responsible for the killing but police spokesman Captain Wikus Weber denied his men had been involved in any operations in Phola Park during the night.

More than 900 people have been killed in political violence sweeping South Africa since multi-party negotiators last month set April 27 as the date for the first all-race elections.

Nearly half of the victims died in Johannesburg's satellite townships.

In a separate development, South African President F.W. De Klerk said South Africa's political leaders must work to uproot violence in the country ahead of its first multiracial elections.

Mr. De Klerk, who is due to visit Chile, Paraguay and Argentina on a Latin American tour later this week, spoke at a joint news conference with Uruguayan President Luis Lacalle in Montevideo.

"There are no simple solutions for South Africa's situation," said the white-minority government leader, who has been criticised by the African National Congress for traveling abroad in South Africa's name.

## Cambodia's Royalist Party calls for restoration of monarchy

PHNOM PENH (Agencies)

The Royalist FUNCINPEC Party released a statement Tuesday rejecting the country's new constitution and calling for the restoration of the Cambodian monarchy.

The statement means a possible deadlock in the Constituent Assembly when it meets to ratify the document on Sept. 10, because FUNCINPEC controls 58 seats of the 120 in the assembly and a two-thirds majority — or 80 seats — is needed to ratify it.

"History has shown that Cambodia's political stability depends upon Buddhist tenants and the king. The king is the basis of stability," the statement said.

The daily Rasmey Kampuchea (Light Of Cambodia) reported that two drafts of the constitution will be presented to the assembly, one drafted by FUNCINPEC and based on Cambodia's 1947 constitution and the other drafted by a committee made up of members from FUNCINPEC and the formerly communist Cambodian People's Party (CPP).

Minor changes are made to the draft, however, it has no chance of being ratified.

The constitution drafted by the committee and finished on Aug. 17 is still being fine tuned, the report said. But it has been criticised by the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) for being vague and lacking specific references to the rights of ethnic minorities, especially ethnic Vietnamese Cambodians.

The draft outlines a parliamentary system where the head of state — sure to be Prince Norodom Sihanouk — is elected first by the assembly for a five-year term renewable by general election.

It says the head of state has the power to appoint the prime minister, who is most likely to be his son Prince Norodom Ranariddh, currently head of FUNCINPEC and a co-premier sharing power with Mr. Hun Sen.

But in the FUNCINPEC statement, Prince Ranariddh said that "constituent members of the FUNCINPEC Party decided together to ask for the adoption of a constitutional monarchy."

"Cambodia needs to have a

head of state who does not have his own political party, meaning a king. The king is the cement who can connect all the broken parts and build a bridge to connect one party with another party," it said.

The Rasmey Kampuchea quoted Chem Sisouan, one of the senior members of the drafting committee from the CPP, as saying the two versions would be put before the assembly for the decision, but that neither was sufficient.

"I am afraid our draft constitution is insufficient," the report quoted Mr. Chem Sisouan as saying. "Neither constitution is good or bad, but if they (the assembly) decide to use the old one, it would not be good either because we have to change some parts to improve it."

Prince Ranariddh is due to travel to Pyongyang at the end of the month to present a draft of the constitution to his father before the assembly meets to ratify it on Sept. 10.

It is now unclear which one he will present, or if he will bring both.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Policeman hurt, bank bombed in Belfast

BELFAST (R) — Irish Republican gunmen Tuesday shot and wounded a policeman on checkpoint duty outside a West Belfast Police Station, police said. The Irish National Liberation Army, a small splinter group fighting just Britain from Northern Ireland, admitted responsibility for the shooting in a statement to the media. The policeman, who was shot in the leg by gunmen speeding by in a hijacked car, was reported "comfortable" in hospital. The Irish Republican Army (IRA), the main guerrilla group fighting Britain in the province, extensively damaged a Belfast bank in a bomb attack early Tuesday. Police described the IRA's eight-minute warning to security forces to clear the area as "woefully inadequate."

#### Defector cites unrest in N. Korea

SEOUL (AP) — A North Korean defector, describing growing unrest in the hardline communist state, said Tuesday 10 generals have been executed for a coup attempt, food shortages have worsened and a new dissident movement has been crushed. The defector, Im Young-Sun, 30, also said military colleagues reported hundreds of people killed in an accident while trying to hide a nuclear reactor from international inspectors. Underground nuclear tests were being conducted under a thick layer of lead at the communist state's nuclear complex at Yongbyon, 98 kilometres north of Pyongyang, Lt. Im said. None of Lt. Im's reports could be confirmed. North Korea is among the world's most closed and isolated nations and information is tightly controlled. Im, who identified himself as a first lieutenant in the North Korean army, told a news conference the 10 generals were executed at the end of 1992 for plotting to overthrow Kim Il Sung and his son and heir apparent as North Korean leader, Kim Jong Il.

#### Brazil restricts access to Indian reserve

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — The government has restricted access to the site where gold miners massacred 73 Yanomami Indians, barring foreign journalists and American and Canadian diplomats from the Amazon reservation. The government has been criticised worldwide for failing to protect the Stone Age tribe from miners, who have been prospecting in Yanomami territory illegally since 1987 despite government efforts to oust them. Diane Page, a human rights observer sent by U.S. embassy in Brasilia, and Canadian diplomat Alan Lathulippe were told to return after their plane touched down Monday at the remote Surucuca Air Force Base in the Yanomami reservation. The diplomats, which had received authorisation to visit the area from the government's National Indian Foundation, were ordered to return by federal police on grounds they had not received proper Foreign Ministry approval.

#### CIS agrees on air defences

MOSCOW (R) — Commonwealth states Tuesday signed an agreement that might salvage the remains of a once-unravelled air defence system thrown into disarray by the collapse of the Soviet Union, ITAR-TASS News Agency reported. Defence ministers from Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) signed the deal outlining key areas of military cooperation and establishing joint anti-aircraft defence systems and early warning systems against missile attack. The former Soviet Air Defence umbrella depended on a system of monitoring throughout the 15 republics and a central control in Moscow. With the collapse of the union, Moscow lost effective control of stations in the three Baltic states and Transcaucasia. The enemy of installations in Central Asia has also been criticised by officials. The long failure of Commonwealth states to agree in practice on a joint air defence was symptomatic of the weakness of its military cooperation. The Commonwealth states, unable to agree on central issues of defence, recently abolished the Commonwealth Joint Command.

#### Ukrainians mark Independence Day

KIEV (R) — Ukraine marked the second anniversary of independence Tuesday with street festivals, but the country's citizens were increasingly angry at plunging living standards and an unending political crisis. Streets in the capital were decked out in traditional embroidered banners with slogans extolling Ukrainian statehood. Officials hoped that residents would brave steady rain to attend open-air concerts and sporting events. But most Ukrainians appeared at best indifferent to the celebrations marking the August 24, 1991 proclamation of independence from the Soviet Union. "Nothing has changed for the better in the past two years," said Serhiy Oborat, a policeman watching a cross-country race on Kiev's main thoroughfare, Kreshchatik Street. "Securing independence was important. But there is too much corruption in high places. Only a new president and parliament can change things."

#### Italy probes ex-communist treasurer

MILAN (R) — Italy's ex-Communists, until now relatively unscathed by the country's sweeping corruption scandal, on Tuesday became more deeply embroiled when the party's treasurer came under investigation. Marcello Stefanini was warned he was being investigated over alleged kickbacks paid by a building firm, Italian News Agency (ANSA) said. Stefanini, a senator in the upper house of parliament, is one of the most senior officials in the reform Communist (PDS) to be caught in the scandal over the illegal financing of political parties. More than 20 per cent of Italian members of parliament and four former prime ministers are under investigation in the 18-month-old probe, in which the once-dominant Socialists and Christian Democrats have been hardest hit.

## Azeri leader says rebel chief fled; men deserted

BAKU (Agencies) — Azeri leader Haydar Aliyev, signalling the apparent end of a separatist rebellion in the south of his country, said Tuesday that the rebel chief had fled and his men were deserting.

In a television broadcast, Mr. Aliyev said three people had been killed and five wounded Monday when the rebels opened fire on demonstrators in the southern port of Lenkeran.

Rebel ex-army officer Aliakbar Gummato, whose men seized control of seven districts bordering Iran in June, had fled into the woods around Lenkeran, Mr. Aliyev said.

Troops who had been supporting Col. Gummato had deserted and declared their allegiance to the Baku government, he said.

"Many of Gummato's soldiers laid down their weapons and refused to obey him," Mr. Aliyev said. "But there are still some people who are still under his command. These people are participants in his crimes."

There was no immediate comment from the rebel side.

The rebels had set up frontier posts between the self-proclaimed "Talysh-Mngansk Republic" and the rest of Azerbaijan.

The violence broke out when several thousand people gathered in Lenkeran to protest against Col. Gummato's plans. Rebel troops opened fire to disperse the crowd and Interfax News Agency reported.

## Angolan troops advance; Mandela announces peace bid

LISBON (AP) — Angolan government forces Tuesday claimed military advances in a southern province, further pinching key UNITA rebel positions in the central highlands.

As fighting raged, three African leaders appealed to Angola's warring parties to attend a fresh round of peace talks in Morocco.

African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson Mandela announced in Johannesburg that he, Morocco's King Hassan II and President Felix Houphouet-Boigny of Ivory Coast had written letters to Angolan President Jose Eduardo Dos Santos and UNITA chief Jonas Savimbi urg-

ing them to attend the talks.

Mr. Mandela did not say when the proposed talks were scheduled.

The United Nations has set a Sept. 15 deadline for Angolan peace talks to resume.

But there has been no sign of a let up in fighting three weeks into a major government offensive.

focuses on UNITA's central stronghold of Huambo, which the rebels seized after a brutal siege in March.

Angolan state radio claimed that government forces had taken the town of Hoque and were closing in on Cacula, both in Huila province.

ing to provide material for discrediting the claims of the conspiracy theorists, so as to inhibit the circulation of such claims in other countries."

"It suggests the possibility of collusion between the two of them and possibly others," he added in an interview.

The woman, whom Reuters has decided not to name for reasons of privacy, called the Soviet consulate in Mexico City twice to discuss a request by Oswald for a Soviet visa.

In the past 30 years, Oswald's contacts in Mexico City have been variously construed by researchers to suggest he worked for the CIA, the Soviet KGB, Cuba or the mafia.

The previously secret House report, titled "Oswald, The CIA and Mexico City," cited CIA officials' testimony that the woman had been identified for recruitment by the CIA, but said it had been unable to "definitely resolve" whether she in fact had



Philippine movie actress and candidate for Miss World pageant Ruffa Gutierrez fights her tears during a Senate inquiry on "Brunei beauties" (AFP photo)

## Philippine Miss World bet denies prostitution

MANILA (AP) — The Philippine entry in the Miss World pageant wept: "I am not a prostitute" at a Senate hearing Tuesday into charges that some of the country's best-known entertainers go to Brunei as call girls.

Ruffa Gutierrez, 19, said the allegations may jeopardise her chances of winning the Miss World title.

She denied having ever visited Brunei and insisted "I am not a prostitute." She demanded a public apology.

Sen. Ernesto Macea, citing newspaper reports, asked the Senate to investigate rumours that Filipino women actresses, models and singers visit the oil-rich South East Asian sultanate for prostitution under the guise of entertainment.

He also criticised Prime Minister Stret Huseinov, who had deserted the Baku government, he said.

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There was no immediate comment from the rebel side.

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## Danes raise German U-boat

COPENHAGEN (R) — A German U-boat sunk in the dying days of World War II broke the surface for the first time in 48 years early Monday after a successful all-night salvage operation in Danish waters. A Danish-Dutch consortium brought the U-534, rumoured to be carrying Nazi treasures or secrets, to the surface at 0845 GMT 20 kilometres north of the Danish island of Anholt. "The U-534 is in fantastic shape," Jonathan Wardlow, spokesman for the salvors, told Reuters. "Much better than we ever could have expected." "We have now got all the U-boat's hatches open and are using bilge pumps to get the water out of the vessel," he said. "Water rushes into the vessel almost as quickly as we can pump it out which could mean that we are near the place where the British depth charge hit and boled the submarine in the 1945 attack."

## Eyeful of prizes for lucky tower visitor

PARIS (AFP) — The most visited French monument, the Eiffel Tower, is going to welcome its 150 millionth visitor in a few days, and he or she will get an eyeful of presents, including a car, the tower operator said Monday. The happy winner is expected some time between Aug. 28 and Sept. 2, depending on how the crowds run, said the new company for operation of the Eiffel Tower. The symbol of Paris welcomed its 25 millionth visitor in 1953, and the 100-millionth in 1983. The tower now pulls in about six million visitors a year, with a daily average of 5,000 to 8,000 in poor weather to as many as 30,000 on a nice summer day.

## 'Majorism' gets a mention in new Oxford dictionary

LONDON (AFP) — The term "majorism" has earned itself a place in the fourth edition of the prestigious smaller Oxford Dictionary — less than three years after its namesake came to power. The two-volume dictionary, due out next month, defines Majorism

# Sports



## Sydney sees Beijing as main Olympics rival

**SYDNEY** (R) — There is no escaping Sydney's Olympic dream, whether you take a ferry around the harbour, a taxi to the Opera or a bus to Bondi Beach.

Multi-coloured streamers flutter everywhere, urging locals and tourists alike to "share the spirit."

Sydney, following two recent unsuccessful Australian bids, wants the 2000 Olympics with a vengeance.

"Sydney is the athletes' choice, Beijing is the politicians' choice," said Bob Elphinston, general manager of the bid, in typically blunt Australian terms.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) will hand down its decision in Monte Carlo September 23.

One local bookmaker, in a profession not renowned for putting sentiment before sense, has Sydney odds on favourite at 8-11, with Beijing at 11-8 and Manchester 6-1.

In many respects, Sydney seems to have it made.

The city of 3.5 million people has 140 ethnic groups — pretty much guaranteeing support for most members of the Olympic family — a sports-mad population, near-perfect climate, fine facilities and strong political backing.

The IOC's enquiry commission technical report released last month virtually said as much.

"If you like at the 23 things that matter on the technical side, the Sydney bid is bloody near perfect," one IOC official told Reuters in London last month. "It's so far ahead of the others, it's quite breathtaking."

The decision remains to be made.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Taylor gives Gazza green light

**LONDON** (AFP) — England manager Graham Taylor has picked Paul Gascoigne for the crucial World Cup qualifier against Poland after a clandestine visit to Rome to check on the player's condition. Taylor flew to Rome and paid to watch Gazza in Lazio's 1-0 win over Roma in a warm-up match. He confirmed later that the controversial midfield star would be in the squad for the September 8 match at Wembley. Last week, Lazio club doctor Claudio Bartolini insisted: "Paul is only 50% fit after his crazy summer." But Taylor, who names his selection next Monday, said Gazza looked "no less fit than any other Lazio player." Gascoigne reportedly returned from his summer holiday a stone overweight.

#### Laudrup return boosts Denmark

**COPENHAGEN** (AFP) — Denmark's chances of qualifying for the World Cup finals have been boosted by the return of Barcelona's Michael Laudrup after three years in the international wilderness. Laudrup joins brother Brian, currently on loan to AC Milan, in an attacking squad named by coach Richard Moller-Nielsen for the European Champions' crucial Group 3 match against Lithuania Wednesday. Martin Johansen, picked for the 4-0 win over Albania in June, has been omitted to make way for the 29-year-old. Laudrup, voted Barcelona's best player last year when they snatched the title from Real Madrid on the final day, has not played for his country since November 1990. He opted to go on holiday to the United States rather than join the squad that triumphed in the European Championships in Sweden last summer.

#### O'Leary out of Ireland's World Cup clash

**DUBLIN** (R) — Injury has forced veteran defender David O'Leary out of the Ireland squad for their World Cup qualifying soccer match at home to Lithuania September 8. O'Leary, 35, suffered an Achilles tendon injury playing for his new club Leeds against Norwich Saturday.

#### GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANIAH HIRSCH  
© Treeca Media Services, Inc.

#### FORGET THOSE BROMIDES

North-South vulnerable. West deals.

**NORTH**  
♦ A Q 7 5  
♦ Q 3  
♦ Q 5 4 3  
+ A 10 5

**WEST**      **EAST**  
+ 10 8 2      + J 6 3  
+ A 10 7 5 2      + K J 8  
+ A      + Q J 8  
+ 9 7 6 4      + K Q J 2

**SOUTH**  
+ A 9 4  
+ 9 8 4  
+ 10 8 7 6 2  
+ 8 3

The bidding: West North East South  
2 7 Dbl Pass 3 9  
Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Seven of ♦. There is an odd bridge axiom: "Cover an honor with an honor," to which a king surely be added, "especially if the queen is led and you hold the K J." But every hand must be treated on its own merits, as this deal from the 9th World Bridge Olympiad demonstrates.

Sitting East-West, respectively, for the U.S. were Jeff Meckstroth and Eric Rodwell, playing against

Alain Levy and Herve Mouiel of France, North-South. At this vulnerability, the U.S. pair used very undisciplined weak two-bids, which accounts for both West's opening bid and East's failure to bid with what was likely to be the best hand at the table. Since the diamond holding was over the doublet, East felt his hand was better suited for defense.

West led the seven of clubs, taken with the ace. The contract was surely going down — barring a defensive collapse, declarer must lose two hearts, a club and at least two trumps. Mouiel tried to limit the damage by making the fine play of the queen of trumps from dummy at trick two.

We know many defenders who would cover with the king reflexively. Great would have been the gall if declarer would later lead toward the ten to escape with two trump losers and a one-trick set.

However, Meckstroth worked out that there was no way that covering with the king could possibly gain. If declarer held the ace-ten of trumps, the defenders would be limited to one trump trick either way. So East ducked, and declarer had to concede three trump tricks — down two.

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## Laith Al Azzouni wins Jordan Tennis Championship

By Aileen Bannayan  
Special to the Jordan Times

**AMMAN** — Jordan's tennis scene, long dominated by No. 1 ranked Ham Al Ali and 2nd-ranked Imad Abu Hamda, may soon have a new champion — 16-year-old Laith Al Azzouni.

During the 1993 Jordan Tennis Championship which ended Monday at the Jordan Tennis Federation (JTF) courts, Azzouni caused the biggest upset of the championship when he defeated Abu Hamda 6-2, 6-2 in the semifinals. He then went on to win the championship after defeating his elder brother, Faris, 4-6, 6-1, 7-6 in the final.

Faris Azzouni had overcome Ayman Abu Jaber 6-1, 6-2 in the other semifinal.

"Laith had nothing to lose. He didn't feel the pressure. Inaud must have felt," a JTF official Tuesday told the Jordan Times. "Laith has come a long way, and will continue to



Laith Al Azzouni

improve," he added.

He also pointed out that there were many bad calls by the referees during the matches. "We have to improve this aspect of the game," he said.

64 competitors took part in the championship. The Kingdom's soleholder for the past decade, Al Ali, did not participate.



**PALESTINE HANDBALL CUP:** Jordan faces Palestine in Palestine Handball Cup championship inaugurated Tuesday by His Royal Highness Prince Faisal Ben Al Hussein at Hussein Youth City. Taking part in the championship are teams from Palestine, Tunisia, Syria and Jordan

## Bruguera, Ivanisevic win

**COMMACK, N.Y.** (AP) — Sergi Bruguera, the French Open champion playing his first hard-court match of the summer, routed Alex O'Brien 6-2, 6-3 Monday in the first round of the \$300,000 Hamlet Cup.

Bruguera, the third seed from Spain, advanced to the second round of this U.S. Open tuneup along with No. 7 Goran Ivanisevic of Croatia, No. 8 Alexander Volkov of Russia and Carl Uwe-Steef of Germany.

Ivanisevic, playing in the featured night match, overcame 17 aces by Marc Goettler of Germany to win 7-6 (9-7), 6-3. Goettler, who also had seven double-faults, held a set point in the tiebreaker at 7-6. Ivanisevic erased it with a passing shot to start a surge that put him ahead 3-0 in the second set.

"It was my best match in a long time and I feel good about it," Ivanisevic said.

In another night match, Patrick McEnroe was ahead 6-1 when Alex Corretja of Spain retired with what is believed to be a torn thigh muscle.

Bruguera has won four titles on clay this year, including the French, and has a 41-9 record on the surface. He had little trouble with O'Brien, the 1992 NCAA champion from Stanford who is ranked 103rd in the world.

Bruguera shrugged off questions why he waited until the week before the U.S. Open to prepare on hardcourts.

Bruguera's last hardcourt tournament was Indian Wells, Calif., in early March. He lost in the first round to Brad Gilbert.

Volkov, playing his sixth straight week on hardcourts, eliminated qualifier Robbie Weiss 6-4, 6-4.

Steef beat fellow German David Prinosil 6-4, 7-5. He took 4-0 lead in the first set but had to

rally from a 3-5, 0-40 deficit in the second set.

"I was lucky," said Steef, who had been sidelined several weeks with a knee injury. "He made five unforced errors when he had me down. But I felt good because it was the first day I've played without pain."

Perfors advances in OTB Tennis in N.Y. (AP) — Sergi Bruguera, the French Open champion playing his first hard-court match of the summer, routed Alex O'Brien 6-2, 6-3 Monday in the first round of the \$300,000 Hamlet Cup.

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## U.S. is No. 1 track power; China new No. 2

**STUTTGART** (Agencies) — The United States is back as the world's dominant track and the field power.

With the breakup of the Soviet Union and the consolidation of the Germans into one team, the Americans have regained the position they held before those nations emerged strongly into the sport.

The Americans did it with an overpowering performance at the World Championships that ended Sunday.

For the first time, the Americans finished atop the medal standings, collecting 26 medals, half of them golds.

At the 1991-Tokyo Championships, the U.S. team also earned 26 medals, 10 golds, but finished second in total medals to the Soviet Union's 28. This time, the Russian team got only 16 medals, including three golds, all by women.

Germany, the medals leader at the first two championships in 1983 and 1987 with 30 and 34 medals, respectively — the totals being a combination of the West German and East German teams — wound up with 17 medals in 1991 and only 6 this time.

The biggest improvement for the United States team was among the women. After garnering a total of only six golds in the previous three championships, they won five in the meet — Gail Devers with a rare double in the 100-metre dash and the 100-metre hurdles, Jean Miles in the 400, Jackie Joyner-Kersee in the heptathlon and the 1,600-metre relay team of Gwen Torrence, Maicel Malone, Natasha Kaiser-Brown and Miles.

"I think it is a flavor of things to come for the women, because there are a lot of young women out there," U.S. women's coach Ernie Gregoire said. "Most of our medalists are in their mid-to-late 20s and there's some good legs left under them."

The U.S. men's team also appears to have a solid future.

"We have some great, young talents coming up," said Michael Johnson, the world 400-metre champion.

While the United States was re-emerging as the no. 1 track power, China was emerging as an important force. The Chinese, winner of only seven medals — two golds — in the previous three championships, went home with eight medals, four golds, all of them by women. It was their best performance in a major competition.

Their gold medal total put the Chinese in second place, one ahead of such formidable track



China's Junxia Wang and Huaoli Zhong do an honour round with their national flag after winning gold and silver respectively in the women's 10,000 metre event (AFP photo)

nationalities as Russia, Britain and Kenya.

The Chinese have a rapidly developing programme, with emphasis on the women, because they feel that women's records are soft and can be broken easily.

The Chinese were ostracized in the international sports community until making their international debut at the 1983 World Championships at Helsinki.

Now, they have track officials crisscrossing the nation in search of talent.

"The coaches select them and put them in systematic training," team leader Chang Xutang said.

Gunnell and Jackson show Russian goodwill

Great Britain's new record-breaking world champions Sally Gunnell and Colin Jackson have agreed to take part in the Goodwill Games in St. Petersburg, Russia, next year.

The event, hosted at the newly-renovated Petrovsky Stadium, takes place between July 23-Aug. 7.

Around 2,000 athletes from more than 50 countries are expected to take part in the event, first-hosted in 1986.

Gunnell ran a new world mark of 52.74sec to take the women's 400m title at Stuttgart last week, while Welshman Jackson's world best time of 12.91 won him the men's 100m title.

## Brazil devoid of flair, say critics

**RIO DE JANEIRO** (R) — Brazil's World Cup qualifying win over Ecuador kept trainer Carlos Alberto Parreira happy but was an immense disappointment to those who admire Brazil's traditional flair and panache.

There were no clever flicks, quick one-twos or swerving free kicks which have delighted World Cup audiences in the past.

Instead, Brazil's play turned into a dull routine of square passes and high crosses into the Ecuador penalty area. It became so predictable that their performance was described as "mechanical" by one newspaper.

Brazil won 2-0 to take an important step towards the World Cup finals in the United States. Bolivia, who beat Venezuela 7-0 Sunday lead the Group B standings with ten points from five matches, followed by Brazil, who have six points from five matches, and Ecuador, four from five. Uruguay have four points from four games, while Venezuela have lost all five of their games.

But the 77,000 crowd at the Morumbi Stadium were not satisfied and jeered Brazil in the second half, shouting "get out Parreira" and chanting the name of former national team coach Telê Santana.

The only inspiration came from striker Bebeto, who scored the first goal and set up the second for Duoga with two moments of brilliance. Otherwise, Brazil may have struggled to break down the massed ranks of the Ecuador defense.

Parreira, who has been severely

criticised for his unadventurous team selections, again made himself unpopular by picking three defensive midfielders in the substitute's bench until the closing minutes.

## PLO asks its diplomats to quit, fires local staff

ABU DHABI (AFP) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has sacked local staff at its diplomatic missions and asked its representatives to take voluntary redundancy because of the organisation's financial crisis.

Several Palestinian officials feared the cuts were a prelude to liquidating the 29-year-old PLO, which has around 15,000 members.

The PLO's political department chief, Farouq Kaddoumi, has sent a circular to the organisation's offices around the world ordering them to fire locally hired employees and asking for voluntary redundancies.

"We have waited for more than three months to get our salary. But what we got is a circular from the PLO leadership telling us that anyone can resign if he wishes," said a Gulf-based PLO official.

"It is aimed at liquidating the organisation and amount to a final blow to its institutions so they will be handed over to Israel with no spirit," he charged, declining to be named.

"But we will not resign because we are struggling not employees. We joined the PLO to fight for our land not under any business contract."

The official read the brief circular to AFP by telephone, saying PLO offices in the Gulf had been in touch over the circular and all their members were refusing to resign.

The Tunis-based PLO has 100 missions around the world, 75 of which are recognised as fully-fledged embassies.

The organisation is suffering its worst crisis due to political and financial woes, notably because of a cut in aid from the oil-rich Gulf because of the organisation's sympathy for Iraq after the 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Some PLO officials have

blamed its leader Yasser Arafat for the crisis and called for his resignation, including the military chief in Lebanon of the organisation's mainstream Fatah group, Mumir Maqdad.

Once the wealthiest guerrilla group in the world, the PLO has now been forced to sell part of its assets.

"The most serious thing in this crisis is that the PLO leadership has abandoned the families of martyrs. They have not received a penny for more than five months," another Gulf-based PLO official complained.

"This is the worst crisis in the PLO's history because it is internal while previous crises were mainly caused by external factors," one official said.

"We believe that those who are responsible for the crisis and all previous mistakes must resign from us. By asking us to resign, the PLO is abandoning its members after several years of serving our national causes."

One official said he had been in the PLO for 25 years and would look for another job but would not submit his resignation.

"You can resign from a bank or company but not from a struggle for freedom and identity. I have contacted the PLO headquarters and all they had to say is that I can go to Lebanon, Syria or Jordan and report to PLO offices there."

According to the circular, PLO representatives who resign would receive one-third of their severance pay now and the rest in monthly installments.

The organisation has closed several institutions in the Israeli-occupied territories and abroad because of the crisis and slashed its aid to the Palestinians of the West Bank and Gaza Strip by two-thirds.

## Croats hold up U.N. emergency Mostar food

MOSTAR, Bosnia (Agencies) — A U.N. aid convoy set out Tuesday with food and medicine for 55,000 Muslims trapped in Mostar but Bosnian Croat forces held it up because of a dispute over the return of the bodies of Croat soldiers.

The 19-truck convoy stalled in Medjugorje, a small southern Bosnian town close to Mostar, after negotiations between Jadranko Prlic, a senior political official in the Bosnian Croat leadership, and U.N. officials broke down.

In Mostar, Muslim fighters said the Croat defence force (HVO), which authorised the convoy, had unleashed a mortar, machinegun and artillery barrage on the Muslim-held eastern sector of the town.

The onslaught began shortly before 6 a.m. (0400 GMT) and continued into the afternoon.

It killed at least two civilians, wounded five soldiers and wrecked the pharmacy at a makeshift hospital where victims of the Croat blockade are being treated.

Three mortar hits on the pharmacy destroyed desperately needed medical supplies delivered by a token U.N. convoy which the Croats allowed to cross their lines at the weekend.

Journalists huddling near the front line between the warring communities reported heavy gunfire in all directions.

Ambulances and cars sped towards the hospital.

Aleksko Lisinski, spokeswoman for the U.N. High Com-

missioner for Refugees (UNHCR), told reporters in Zagreb the convoy entered Bosnia from Croatia shortly after midday (1000 GMT).

It had planned to reach Mostar in mid-afternoon.

Nineteen trucks authorised by the HVO were carrying enough food to last the Muslim population for a week.

The civilians in the Muslim quarter have not received U.N. food since June 2 and aid officials fear people will start dying of starvation soon.

U.N. peacekeepers who reached the area Saturday said hospital conditions were desperate.

Some operations were being performed without anaesthesia, more than two-thirds of the rest were refugees and 60 per cent of the buildings were uninhabitable, they said.

Croats and Muslims each made up some 42 per cent of Mostar's pre-war population 130,000, and lived in peace. They united earlier this year to oppose Bosnian Serbs, but their alliance disintegrated as plans for an ethnic division of Bosnia emerged.

Bosnia's Croats want Mostar to be the capital of a Croat-dominated republic. Fighting between the city's Muslim and Croat communities broke out in May.

Despite a Bosnian ceasefire signed Aug. 11 and last week's peace talks in Geneva, sporadic fighting was reported across Bosnia on Monday.

## Montazeri in hospital

NICOSIA (R) — Iran's Ayatollah Hossein Ali Montazeri, barred from politics by the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini who dismissed him as his designated successor, has been admitted to a Tehran hospital suffering from kidney stones, his son said Tuesday.

Saeed Montazeri said intelligence officials prevented the 71-year-old cleric's admission to a public hospital in Tehran last week when he went there with a heart ailment.

"He is generally fine but has kidney stones. Doctors have prescribed medication for now and have not yet decided on the main treatment," he told Reuters by telephone from Khamat-ul-Anbia hospital.

He said Ayatollah Montazeri was admitted to the hospital, which is run by the Martyr Foundation, on Sunday.

## King and Qaboos hold talks

(Continued from page 1)

jali, Royal Court Chief Khalid Al Karaki, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ben Zeid, Private Chamberlain Prince Ali Ben

Ayatollah Montazeri has been banned from official Iranian politics since Ayatollah Khomeini dismissed him as his designated heir three months before he died in 1989. He continued teaching theology in the Holy Shrine Muslim city of Qom south of Tehran.

He has occasionally come into conflict with Iranian leaders after making critical statements. In February when his office was ransacked and five of his aides were arrested.

Saeed Montazeri said intelligence officials went Logman-od-Dowleb hospital on Aug. 16 when doctors there recommended Ayatollah Montazeri stay for checks for 48 hours.

"They told the doctors it was not expedient for him to be in Tehran and he should return to Qom. The doctors resisted to some extent, but ultimately had to give in," he said.

"He is generally fine but has kidney stones. Doctors have prescribed medication for now and have not yet decided on the main treatment," he told Reuters by telephone from Khamat-ul-Anbia hospital.

He said Ayatollah Montazeri was admitted to the hospital, which is run by the Martyr Foundation, on Sunday.

Nayef and senior civil and military officials in addition to the Oman ambassador to Jordan.

Prince Mohammad was sworn in to serve as the Regent during the King's absence.



DEPARTURE: His Majesty King Hussein with His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the personal representative of the King, at the airport Tuesday shortly before the King left on a visit to Oman (Petra photo)

## Fatah leader urges Arafat to resign

BEIRUT (AP) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, increasingly beleaguered by opponents within the movement Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), faced further strife Tuesday when his militia commander in Lebanon called on him to resign.

Munir Maqdad, who heads the 3,000-strong force, denounced Mr. Arafat's handling of the Middle East peace talks and accused him of being a major cause of thousands of Palestinians in a financial crisis that is crippling the PLO.

Mr. Maqdad's broadside fuelled a swelling leadership crisis within the PLO in which Mr. Arafat is facing unprecedented public criticism.

Officials at PLO headquarters in Tunis said the movement's decision-making executive committee will meet Thursday to discuss the crisis following the resignation of senior figures.

By all accounts, the critical session is likely to be heated.

A growing number of senior Palestinians are openly challenging Mr. Arafat and demanding sweeping reforms, including greater consultations on how to proceed in the 21-month-old deadlocked negotiations with Israel.

Mr. Maqdad joined at least five other top PLO officials in calling for an extraordinary meeting of the Palestine National Council.

The crisis has been building for months, with large numbers of Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories demanding Mr. Arafat pull Palestinian negotiators out of the U.S.-sponsored PNC meeting to discuss Mr. Arafat's "irresponsible and adventurous" policies.

The Jewish state will only discuss limited autonomy inside the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The crisis has accelerated amid talks that Mr. Arafat will resign from the Executive Committee to protest Mr. Arafat's policies.

## Swiss-Turkish dispute bursts into the open

ANKARA (Agencies) — Turkey Tuesday asked Switzerland to recall its ambassador in Ankara and two embassy attachés in a week's time.

"We have asked Switzerland to withdraw its ambassador (André Ramseyer) and two attachés, Jean-Pierre Baumeier and Hendrich Maurer," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

Mr. Toperi would then appoint a new envoy to Berne, it said.

### Hostages rescued

Turkish soldiers killed eight PKK guerrillas Monday while freeing two Britons and two Afghans kidnapped hours earlier by the rebels, a Turkish official said.

The Turkish government "rejects" the lifting of the diplomatic immunity of its ambassador and officials here said Mr. Toperi was here for "consultations."

The action was a diplomatic tit-for-tat in response to the decision by Swiss authorities Wednesday to lift the diplomatic immunity of Turkish Ambassador in Bern Kaya Toperi, who returned to Friday, observers noted.

Swiss authorities lifted the immunity of Mr. Toperi and another Turkish embassy employee in order to question them in connection with a shooting with Kurdish demonstrators outside the Bernese embassy that left one dead and nine wounded in Jilly.

Aokara had also recalled four of its Bernese embassy staffers in connection with the incident, after refusing to have their diplomatic immunity lifted.

Mr. Toperi has said he ordered embassy staff to fire into the air to prevent the demonstrators, militants of the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK), from storming the embassy. Witnesses say they fired at the legs of the demonstrators.

Switzerland, like other western states, have ruled out negotiations with the PKK, which demands that the governments of the kidnapped tourists negotiate directly for their release.

Nayef and senior civil and military officials in addition to the Oman ambassador to Jordan.

Prince Mohammad was sworn in to serve as the Regent during the King's absence.

## Israel polluting River Jordan, official says

By Ayman Al Safadi  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Israel bears the sole responsibility for the high level of pollution in the Jordan River, an official said Tuesday.

Abdul Aziz Wishah, director of the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA), said Israel had been polluting the river by piping sewage and salty water into it.

"Israel pipes domestic and industrial sewage and salty waters into the river. It is fully responsible for polluting it," Dr. Wishah said.

He said the salinity level in the river's water had increased since Israel stopped the flow of sweet water from the Tiberias Lake into the river.

Israel has diverted the water of the Tiberias away from the river to irrigate agricultural land, and the diversion has substantially lowered the river's water level.

Israel's nature reserves authority said Tuesday that sewage spewing into the River Jordan had pushed bacteria in its waters to 2.5 times the permitted level for swimming.

Agence France Presse (AFP) said the pollution was found where the river flows into the Sea of Galilee and traced upstream to the Hula Valley where sewage was flowing into the river.

The agency quoted an Israeli health ministry official as saying that more tests were needed to find out whether the whole upper stretch of the river was polluted.

Most of the areas on the bank of the river in Jordan are closed to civilians as military zones.

Visits to the river are restricted.

Dr. Wishah said little could be done to treat the pollution in the river due to the "political situation and technical difficulties."

Water rights is one of the major issues that Jordan and Israel are discussing in the multi-lateral and bilateral phases of the Middle East peace process, which was launched in Madrid in 1991.

Prime Minister Abdal Salam Al Majali said in June that Israel had recognised Jordan's demands for returning its rights to the waters of the Jordan and Yarmuk rivers.

"The fundamental achievements of the peace process have so far included an Israeli recognition... (of the need) to return our rights in the waters of the Yarmuk and Jordan rivers," Dr. Majali said.

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